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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/727,089	12/02/2003	David Byrne Reese	GCENP003	6003

22434 7590 09/21/2004  
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EXAMINER

ZHONG, CHAD

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2152

DATE MAILED: 09/21/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/727,089

Applicant(s)

REESE ET AL.

Examiner

Chad Zhong

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 May 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-51 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-51 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02 December 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4/24 & 5/10/04
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-51 are presented for examination.
2. It is noted that although the present application does contain line numbers in specification and claims, the line numbers in the claims do not correspond to the preferred format. The preferred format is to number each line of every claim, with each claim beginning with line 1. For ease of reference by both the Examiner and Applicant all future correspondence should include the recommended line numbering.
3. The specification is objected to because of the following:  
  
current US patent policy does not permit the use of hyperlinks in the specification. Such links are directed to an Internet site, the contents of which are subject to change without notice. Therefore, the potential for inclusion of new matter would be a constant problem. See page 30, Fig 4, for example. Appropriate correction is required on the entire drawings, specification and appendix.
4. The use of the trademark Oracle, SAP, PeopleSoft among others have been noted in this application (pg 2, for example). It should be capitalized wherever it appears and be accompanied by the generic terminology. Appropriate correction is required on the entire specification and appendix.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371 (c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

6. Claims 1-51 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Bowman-Amuah (hereinafter Bowman), US 2003/0058277.

7. As per claim 1, Bowman teaches a method for provisioning services within a computer network, the method comprising:

receiving an offer pertaining to a service, the offer being created by a provider and transmitted from a first device to a second device within the computer network ([1790]; [0418]; [2305]; [2294]; wherein the service centric platform is offering services to users);

receiving identifying information regarding one or more invitees to be invited to access the service of the offer, the one or more invitees being transmitted from the first device to the second device ([1494]; [1475]; [1259]; [1084]; wherein the various types of authentication types are sent between two nodes); and

in response to receipt of the offer and the identifying information regarding the one or more invitees, providing an invitation to each of the one or more invitees to access the service of the offer based on the received identifying information ([1293]; [1471]; [1518]; [1467]; wherein the user name and passwords are verified prior to offering the service to the invitees).

8. As per claim 2, Bowman teaches a method as recited in claim 1, wherein the invitation is provided in the form of an email ([2199]; [2197]).

9. As per claim 3, Bowman teaches a method as recited in claim 1, wherein the invitation is provided in the form of a message or an FTP (file transfer protocol) drop ([3020]).

10. As per claim 4, Bowman teaches a method as recited in claim 1, further comprising:

providing a unique URL address (Uniform Resource Locator) for each one or more invitees; and

providing the corresponding URL address in the each invitation to each invitee, wherein the URL

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address points to one or more web pages which allows the each invitee to register identifying information and accept terms for the offer ([1675]; [1957-1958]; [1965]; [2291]; [2918]; [2216]).

11. As per claim 5, Bowman teaches a method as recited in claim 4, wherein the unique URL address is provided to the provider by a provisioning service implemented on the second device, and wherein the provider sends the each invitation to each of the one or more invitees ([1300]; [1404]; [1556]; [1965]; [2216]; [2291]).

12. As per claim 6, claim 6 is rejected for the same reasons as rejection to claim 5 above.

13. As per claim 7, Bowman teaches a method as recited in claim 1, further comprising storing the offer and its associated one or more invitees ([2294]).

14. As per claim 8, Bowman teaches a method as recited in claim 7, wherein the offer and its associated one or more invitees are only stored when the provider is authorized to create the offer, and wherein the invitation is only provided to the one or more each invitees when the provider is authorized to create the offer ([2294]; [2305]; [3934]; [4132]).

15. As per claim 9, Bowman teaches a method as recited in claim 8, further comprising sending an error message to the provider when the provider is not authorized to create the offer ([3936]).

16. As per claim 10, Bowman teaches a method as recited in claim 1, further comprising presenting a registration input form to a first invitee of the one or more invitees for the offer when the first invitee accesses the invitation ([3941]; [4094]; [4131]).

17. As per claim 11 Bowman teaches a method as recited in claim 10, wherein the identifying information received for the first invitee is pre-filled into the presented registration form ([3586]; [2857];

[2746]).

18. As per claim 12, Bowman teaches a method as recited in claim 10, wherein the invitation to the each one or more invitees further allows the each one or more invitees to accept the invitation ([1557]; [1013]).

19. As per claim 13, Bowman teaches a method as recited in claim 12, further comprising presenting an acceptance link to the first invitee when the invitee submits the registration form with identifying information ([1013]; [3082]; [3545]; [1300]; [1404]; [1556]; [1965]; [2216]; [2291]).

20. As per claim 14, Bowman teaches a method as recited in claim 12, further comprising:  
setting up permissions between the first invitee and the service when the first invitee registers and accepts the offer ([4162]; [4134]; [1446]).

21. As per claim 15, claim 15 is rejected for the same reasons as rejection to claim 14 above.

22. As per claim 16, Bowman teaches a method as recited in claim 12, further comprising:  
when the first invitee accepts the first offer, storing an indicator that the first invitee accepted the offer and the date of such acceptance ([1179]; [0865]; [0466]; [0007]; [1964]; [3933]; [4252]; [4256]);  
when the first invitee does not accept the offer, storing an indicator that the first invitee did not accept the offer ([1604]; [3095]; [4055]; [4138]);  
when the first invitee registers, storing an indicator regarding the registration and the date of such registration ([4138]; [4055]; [3237]); and  
when the first invitee does not register, storing an indicator that the first invitee did not register ([4138]; [4055]; [3237]; [1216]; [2998]; [3367]).

23. As per claim 17, claim 17 is rejected for the same reasons as rejection to claim 16 above.

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24. As per claim 18, Bowman teaches a method as recited in claim 9, wherein the registration form is presented to the first invitee by presenting an invitation page having a registration link, the method further comprising:

presenting an option link in the invitation page, wherein the option can be accessed by invitees which have already registered ([1300]; [1404]; [1556]; [1965]);

presenting an acceptance link to the first invitee when the invitee submits the registration form with identifying information ([3909-3911]; [3906]; [3502]); and

presenting the acceptance link to the first invitee when the invitee selects the option link and the first invitee is already registered ([4252-4253]).

25. As per claim 19-33, claims 19-33 are rejected for the same reasons as rejection to claims 1-5, 7, 10-18 above respectively.

26. As per claim 34, claims 34-51 are rejected for the same reasons as rejection to claims 1-18 above respectively.

### *Conclusion*

27. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

The following patents and publications are cited to further show the state of the art with respect to

“Apparatus And Methods For Provisioning Services”.

- |      |            |                |
|------|------------|----------------|
| i.   | US 6529489 | Kikuchi et al. |
| ii.  | US 5255389 | Wang           |
| iii. | US 5333312 | Wang           |
| iv.  | US 6091714 | Sensel et al.  |

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chad Zhong whose telephone number is (703) 305-0718. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7am-4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John A Follansbee can be reached on 703-305-8498. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746-7239 for regular communications and 703-746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

CZ  
July 9, 2004



**FRANTZ B. JEAN**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**